

**HARMONY PASTORAL CHARGE
OCTOBER NEWLETTER**

**October Worship at 10:30 p.m. Sunday morning
At Centerville Presbyterian Church**

Everybody welcome.

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Hi folks. Rev Lynda here. Like a bad penny I just seem to keep showing up!

I hope you have enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving and are getting a chance to get out and enjoy these glorious Autumn days.

I will be serving as .5 Retired Supply minister with Harmony Pastoral Charge from October until the end of May, 2023.

Unlike last year when we were fortunate enough to have Rev. Bob also serving as .5 retired supply, this year it is just me.

I wanted to offer a bit of an update on what is happening in Harmony Pastoral Charge.

As you may recall, last Spring it was decided that we would form a 'Transition Team' to enter into conversations with Centerville Presbyterian church with the view to possibly forming an amalgamated or community based church.

The team was established with three people from Millbrook Cavan church (Melba, Beryl, Wayne) and three from Bailieboro Springville,(Murray, Bonnie and Jim). Members of Centerville Presbyterian church Session are acting as the transition team for their church.

The Team, along with the two moderators for the Presbyterians church , Rev. Bob and myself (Rev. Lynda) met in May to have a very preliminary conversation about next steps. At that meeting I suggested that we try joining for worship on a trial basis with the United Church providing leadership for half of the worship services and the Presbyterians providing leadership for the other half of the services.

There were several possible advantages to this trial. One advantage would be that each church would need to find ministry for only half the Sundays each month.

Given the current difficulty in finding pulpit supply or someone willing to take on a half time ministry position this was a real advantage. The other positive aspect of

this arrangement was that it would allow us a period to check out how joint services were working and if we are compatible as a worshipping community... a time of 'dating' so to speak, or a time of getting to know each other.

At the time of this conversation in May, Centerville was still part of a two point charge with St Giles church in Peterborough. During meetings this past summer, Centerville has moved away from that former partnership with St Giles allowing them to move forward in conversations with the United Church.

In September I had a Zoom conversation with the two Presbyterian Moderators. With the Fall church season fast approaching and no plans for worship leadership past the end of September, I suggested that we move forward with a trial period of worshipping together beginning in November.

This would give us a month to sort out a few things before the Advent season. This recommendation was passed on to the Transition Team who met on September 20th and approved this plan.

Worship Schedule for Harmony Pastoral Charge

October 2, 16, 23. Rev Lynda

October 9, 30. Celia Hunter

Thanks to Celia for agreeing to lead us in worship these two weeks!

October Services 10:30 Centreville

November 6, Rev Lynda

November 13, David Brackenridge

November 20, Len Bruce

November 27, Advent #1, Rev. Lynda

December 4, Kevin Adams

December 11, Rev. Lynda

December 18, Marty Taylor

December 24, Christmas Eve, Rev. Lynda

November and December Services 10:00 Centreville Sanctuary

There is much to be sorted out in the months ahead. As in any new relationship there will be a time of adjustment as we live into this new way of being the church.

There will be many changes for all of us and many compromises will be required as we find a way to move forward honouring the traditions of both our United and Presbyterian roots. We ask your patience as we work through these changes and hopefully find our way as a new amalgamated church family.

It is an exciting time and once again I believe Harmony is leading the way and showing other churches facing declining numbers that we can dare to find new ways of being the church.

As in all things, we do this as the Body of Christ and in response to the nudging of the Spirit who calls us to be the church in our communities.

I will try through newsletters and announcements during our worship services to communicate and share with you the content of the conversations that are taking place as we live into this time of transition.

If at any time you have questions, concerns or suggestions please feel free to contact me.

Times of change are hard for us all. Thank you for your patience as we make this journey together.

Rev. Lynda



One Roof Sandwich Outreach

Last year Harmony undertook a new community outreach in the form of sandwich making to support One Roof diner. One Roof has an outreach to help support those living with food insecurity in Peterborough area, and the demand during the pandemic has been great indeed. Our project involved folks making sandwiches on the first and/or third Thursday of each month and dropping the sandwiches off at Millbrook Farm and Pet Supply at 2 Centre

street Millbrook (located between the gas station and the LCBO) Other folks supported this project by making financial donations. This project was a huge success. Not only did we make a big difference by providing food directly, we were also able to make a sizeable financial donation to support the ongoing work of One Roof Diner. I know many of our sandwich makers have continued to support this program during the summer. THANK YOU!

We have traditionally made sandwiches for the first and third Thursday of each month. This means that Thursday October 21st will be our next sandwich day. Many thanks to all our sandwich makers and if you would like to participate and become a sandwich maker please email or give Rev. Lynda call.

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If you wish to make a financial donation to this project, please just add it to your weekly offering and indicate you wish to support the sandwich project on the front of your envelope.

‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you or see you thirsty and give you something to drink? ...The king answered, ‘Whatever you did for one of my brothers or sisters, no matter how unimportant they seemed, you did for me.’ Matthew 25.

